Kalka-Parwanoo rail line

3453. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a long standing demand from Himachal Pradesh, for laying rail line from Kalka to Parwanoo and for Nangal-Una- Talwara rail line;

(b) whether Government have considered these demands and taken action; and

(c) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Both the projects have been sanctioned.

(c) (i) The final location survey for rail line between Kalka and Parwanoo has been completed and land acquisition papers have been submitted to the State Government. An outlay of Rs. 4.05 crore has been proposed for this work in the budget 2002-2003.

(ii) The first phase from Nangal Dam - Una has been commissioned. The work is in progress in second phase from Una to Chururu Takrala (16 Kms.) where earthwork and bridges are in progress. An outlay of Rs. 10 crs. has been proposed for this work in the budget 2002-2003.

Taran Taran—Goindwal rail line

3454. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of on-going projects for construction of rail lines in Punjab, during the last two years;

(b) whether any proposal for construction of Taran Taran-Goindwal rail line project is under consideration of Government;

(c) whether Government are aware that the above project is going to affect small and marginal farmers, holding one to two acres of land, on which their livelihood depends;

(d) whether villagers of the area are not interested in this project because of high cost of construction/economically unviability with low passengers traffic; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to re-examine/abandon the above project?